Sad and

Lamentable Newes

FROM

HOLLAND.

BEING

A True Relation of the Great and Wonderful Inundation of Waters, that brake in at the Town of *Gorkham*, in the Night-time, near the City of *Amsterdam*, where many ſtately Houſes became buried in the violent Waves; both Men, VVomen and Children periſhing in the raging Billows.

Alſo, The Manner how the Waters brake in again with great Violence, on Munday laſt about Noon, at the two ſtrong Sluces of *Bommel* and *Thieler*, where about Thirty Villages were drowned and not any thing to be ſeen, but the tops of ſome few Steeples and Chimneys, many periſhing in the VVaters; ſome eſcaping in *Boats*, and the poor Infants floating upon the raging VVaves in their Swadling-bands and Cradles

Together with the ſad and wofull Cries and Groans of the poor diſtreſſed Inhabitants; and the Ringing of the Bells backward, to prevent the periſhing of others.

London, Printed for J. Johnſon, 1663.

Sad and Lamentable

NEWES FROM HOLLAND.

SIR,

SInce my last unto you, dated from the *Brill*, I gave you an account of our Winter-sufferings in these parts, which were exceeding great and deplorable; but that which I have now to communicate, doth far surpass the greatest calamities that hath befallen these Countreys for many years. For indeed, through the abundance of Snow falling for several dayes together, and upon a sudden Thaw also, the Seas swell'd, and the Waters grew

grew ſo exceeding high, that the Foundations of the Earth, and ſtrong Banks were too weak for the mighty force of the Waters, inſomuch, that the Town of *Garkham*, *Warſald*, *Flute*, and all the neighbouring Villages, have received very great damages; by reaſon of the ſudden Inundation of the Waters about 11 of the Clock at Night, which brake down the ſtrong Sluce, called the Defence, near unto the aforeſaid Town of *Garkham*; divers of the Inhabitants being immediately ſurprized, by the raging Billows, and furious Waves, of the merciles Seas, having no notice to ſecure their own lives, or any thing that was near and dear unto them but all the Inhabitants in general, running ſome one way, and ſome another, the ſtreets ſounding with loud ſhrieks, and lamentable Out-Gryes, the Parents making doleful moan for their poor Children, and the Children ſighing out ſad and Lamentable Cryes, for their dear and carefull Parents.

And truly, had not the Magiſtrates of the Town been exceeding vigilant, the loſs might have been far greater, but by firing of the Great Guns, and ringing of the Bells backward, the Inhabitants of the adjacent parts, had notice of this ſad inundation of Waters: ſo that having this timely notice, many hundreds of Men, Women, and Children by the infinite Mercies of God, eſcaped that which the Hand of Providence had decreed for others: for many in the night-time periſhed, the houſes (moſt of them) being before morning covered with Wa-

ters,

ters, and not any thing of some of them to be seen, but onely the tops of Chimneys. Yet, blessed be God, many escaped away in small Boats, and other little Vessels, saving their Children, and some few Goods. But alas! here it did not end: for the next day betwixt 11. and 12. of the Clock in the Forenoon, the Waters came in again with great violence, broke down the two strong Sluces of *Bommel* and *Thielen*, the roaring Billows and raging Waves, running several wayes, on a sudden transcended the tops of many houses, the Inhabitants being forced, as before, to shift for themselves, some poor Infants floating upon the lofty Waters, even in their swadling clouts and Cradles, which it pleased God out of his infinite Mercies miraculously to preserve from those near approaching dangers and to make strangers, as well as their Relations, to adventure forth in Boats, to take them in, and preserve them from destruction.

But notwithstanding many were preserved, a great number there were that perished by these sudden Inundations, and great store of Cattel likewise there being almost forty Villages drowned, and not any thing to be seen but here and there the top of a Chimney, or a Church Steeple, and the Countrey for many miles together seeming like a great Sea of the main Ocean, to the unspeakable grief of many thousands, the loss being exceeding great, and as 'tis probably conjectured, amounts to many Millions for indeed as yet it is unknown.

The

The Inhabitants that fled in Boats, and the like, are many; yet many there are that miſs each his Friend: and as there are ſome left Fatherleſs and Motherleſs, ſo are there many likewiſe left Childleſs; and great enquiry up and down the Countreys, for their ſeveral Friends and Relations.

Many have been taken up dead in ſundry remote places, and all poſſible means are uſed by Engines, and other Inſtruments, for the draining of the Waters; which the Lord of his infinite Goodneſs proſper: and grant that for the time to come, not onely the Inhabitants here in the Netherlands, but all others, throughout their reſpective Territories and Dominions, may bee preſerved from theſe ſad and deſtructive Inundations.

Since this great Inundation, we hear of ſome further loſs at Sea, eſpecially towards the Northern parts, where there hath been ſuch ſtrange Hurricanoes, and great ſtorms, that the like hath not been theſe many years. As touching the Ship you writ to me about, whoſe Voyage was to the Canaries, in which Cap-

Captain Johnſon was concern'd, we hear not any thing as yet of her; but ere long, I doubt not but to anſwer your expectation therein. In the mean time, be pleaſed to take notice, that I have diſpatched away your laſt Letters, both to Hamborough, and the other places. I would have been more large upon theſe particulars; but by reaſon of the late Inundations, our time is ſpent in the ſtrengthening of many other Sluces, and repairing of the Sea-Banks about this City, the ſtorms being exceeding great in theſe parts, and for many years, the like not known, in relation to Navigation. We have ſundry gallant experienced Gentlemen come from divers places, unto whom our States are highly obliged for their indefatigable pains, and great care to prevent any future Inundation: ſome Sluces which they have already made ſome progreſs in, ſeem impregnable; and many excellent Devices and Stratagems have they uſed, both of Wood and Iron, not only for the draining of the Waters, but alſo for the ſtrengthening of the Sea-Banks.

Amſterdam, Febr. 7.

FINIS.